

July 2008 Meeting—Minutes

California Environmental Education Interagency Network (CEEIN)



Date	July 17, 2008
Time	9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
Location	Cal/EPA Headquarters Building, 1001 I Street (Corner of 10th and I streets), Conf. Room 230
Lead	Ed Wong (for Sandra Salazar-Thompson)
Note taker	Nita Davidson
Phone	877.213.1782, Participant Code 340238
Please bring your own beverage and make your own copies!	

Attendance

Kay Antuñez, Cal Fire
Nita Davidson, DPR
Annie Kohut Frankel, Calif. Coastal Commission
Jim Greco, CDE
Susan Knadle, OEHHA
Betsy Magladry, DFG

Yessi Mata, ARB {student assistant}
Laurie Montseurrat, OEHHA (on phone, briefly)
Carolyn Tucker, DWR
Ed Wong, ARB
Cheryl Williams, CIWMB

	<i>Item</i>	<i>Lead</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Notes</i>
1.	Check in and catch up <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welcome & Introductions Review Agenda Approve May 2008 Minutes Update Outstanding Action Items 	Ed	9:30–9:45	Betsy Magladry is filling in for Bobbie Winn . Yessi Mata , a student at UC Davis, is assisting Ed Wong . May minutes approved.
2.	What's New in Your World?	All	9:45–9:55	Kay Antuñez distributed a recent news release about a new secondary-level curriculum module, <i>Global Connections: Forests of the World</i> . The module, a collaboration of Project Learning Tree and the World Forestry Center, integrates biology, geography, agriculture and other areas of science and social studies for high school or early college level. The module's structure is based on the Montreal Process, an international effort to measure changes in sustainable forest conservation. Educators receive a copy of the module by attending a workshop. For information, visit www.plt.org .
3.	New Business Guest Speaker: BreAnda Northcutt, Cal/EPA , Director of Communications & External Affairs Topic: Cal/EPA's Environmental Management System (EMS): <i>What's Eubie got to do with it?</i>	Ed	9:55–10:30	BreAnda Northcutt described the origin of the EMS program in the Cal/EPA Building. EMS is an integrated set of management processes designed to continually identify, prioritize, and improve the environmental impacts of an organization. The International Standards Organization (ISO) has established specific requirements and guidelines for EMS. (In other words, the standards for everything—from toy safety to surgical instruments—are determined by international panels of experts.) The EMS efforts in the Cal/EPA Building are driven by ISO 14001 standards and address global warming (the big picture), recycling, energy efficiency, environmentally preferable purchasing, and adopting transportation alternatives. We discussed one annoying inconsistency—why DGS doesn't allow us to recycle educational material—e.g., donating used stuff to RAFT (Resource Area for Teaching). In fact, one person was fired for doing this. BreAnda took this under consideration. Since all State buildings are undergoing audits of their respective carbon footprints and greenhouse gas emissions, we may soon see changes to some wasteful practices. There were

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	Jim Greco, CDE Trees for Kids (Trees4Kids)			also comments that many employees don't bother to recycle (much less reduce or reuse). The Climate Action Team will work among different state agencies to raise awareness. For more info, see http://www.calepa.ca.gov/EMS Jim Greco described the Trees for Kids or Peace Trees international reforestation program. Established by a retired Marin County lawyer. Kay thinks that at least 90 entities exist statewide that do tree planting with kids. [no Web site found]
3.	Committee Reports & Discussion		10:30–10:45	Leadership & Legislation: Has not met for a while. Andrea is the lead. Diversity: Kay will attend the CAFE Annual Conference in Long Beach, February 25–28, 2009 and other CEEIN members are welcome. Kay (or rather Cal Fire) will pay for the exhibit. For more info about the California Association for Bilingual Education and the conference, see http://www.bilingualeducation.org/about_cabe.php . Environmental: Jim will have more info at the August meeting.
4.	Miscellaneous Topics <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Presentation	Susan & Ed	10:45–11:25	California Air Quality and Wildfires: Susan Knadle (OEHHA) and Ed Wong (ARB) gave an informative presentation, bringing us up to date on how the many wildfires in California this summer affect air quality. The combination of high temperatures, ground-level ozone, and tiny particles from ash and other sources takes its toll on our lungs. This summer, we've had the worst fire season in California ever (recorded history, that is). Air pollution is getting worse. Although tailpipe emissions are 95% cleaner than in the 1980s, the number of vehicles on the road and the distance they travel have increased. Because of California's topography—lots of valleys—polluted air gets trapped. Sunlight and high temperatures change some substances into pollutants. The top pollutants include ozone, particulate matter, carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides, sulfur compounds, volatile organic compounds (VOCs), and toxic air contaminants. Air pollution forms from combustion of fuel, which results from activity from automobile and truck engines, factories, fireplaces, construction equipment, and ships. Hydrocarbon compounds that evaporate from fuel, solvents, and some pesticides and consumer products react with nitrogen oxides to form ground-level ozone. Smog is a combination of smoke and other particulates, ozone, hydrocarbons, nitrogen oxides, and other reactive compounds which, under certain conditions of weather and sunlight, can combine to form a murky brown haze that's bad for our lungs. PM2.5 and PM10 refer to size of particulate matter in microns (µm) or one-millionth of a meter. (The diameter of human hair is 70 µm.) PM resulting from wildfires has ranges from 0.4–0.7 µm. The particles are so small that they lodge in our alveoli, causing permanent damage. Children are more sensitive to the effects of smoke than adults, and asthma from exposure to smog is epidemic among children. Children have a lower alveolar surface area and greater respiration rate (breaths/min), so more particulates enter their lungs. Children are more active than adults, which increases the respiration rate. Therefore children's lungs are exposed to

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				greater amounts of particulate toxicants than adult lungs. Asthma results when oxidation from air pollution makes cell membranes rigid. The constant exposure to bad air (certainly exacerbated by the wildfires) increases our bodies' inflammation response, which causes our lung cells to release more histamine, causing constriction of bronchioles.
	Meeting Wrap-Up <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clarify Action Items Pending Items/Parking Lot Develop September Meeting Agenda 	Nita	11:10– 11:20	Action Items: none August 18 Meeting: Ed will not be at the meeting (important to know for those of us who depend on him for various things). Our guest speaker will be Ms. Sheng Lin, Internship Advisor for the UC Center Scholar Intern Program. Contact Andrea with agenda items; include what portion of the meeting it's for and approximately how long you'll be speaking.

Meeting Protocol Agreements

- Start and end meetings on time; stay on track on agenda.
- Listen and treat others' opinions with respect.
- Keep commitments to agreements and assignments (i.e., follow-up, time frames, due dates).
- Make participation in the meeting your priority; keep cell phones on vibrate and only accept emergency calls (outside the meeting room).
- A quorum of 11 CEEIN Members is needed to hold a meeting.
- For major decisions, if consensus can't be reached, the issue will be put to a vote of the CEEIN members present at the following meeting.
- Make a conscious effort to conduct the meeting in an environmentally friendly manner.